

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

From the
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

To:

PCT

Translation

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

(PCT Rule 43bis.1)

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100%; height: 100%;"></div> | | Date of mailing (day/month/year) |
| Applicant's or agent's file reference 664389 | | FOR FURTHER ACTION See paragraph 2 below |
| International application No. PCT/JP2004/005707 | International filing date (day/month/year) 21.04.2004 | Priority date (day/month/year) 21.04.2003 |
| International Patent Classification (IPC) or both national classification and IPC | | |
| Applicant MATSUSHITA ELECTRIC INDUSTRIAL CO. LTD. | | |

1. This opinion contains indications relating to the following items:

- | | | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Box No. I | Basis of the opinion |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Box No. II | Priority |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Box No. III | Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Box No. IV | Lack of unity of invention |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Box No. V | Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Box No. VI | Certain documents cited |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Box No. VII | Certain defects in the international application |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Box No. VIII | Certain observations on the international application |

2. **FURTHER ACTION**

If a demand for international preliminary examination is made, this opinion will be considered to be a written opinion of the International Preliminary Examining Authority ("IPEA") except that this does not apply where the applicant chooses an Authority other than this one to be the IPEA and the chosen IPEA has notified the International Bureau under Rule 66.1bis(b) that written opinions of this International Searching Authority will not be so considered.

If this opinion is, as provided above, considered to be a written opinion of the IPEA, the applicant is invited to submit to the IPEA a written reply together, where appropriate, with amendments, before the expiration of 3 months from the date of mailing of Form PCT/ISA/220 or before the expiration of 22 months from the priority date, whichever expires later.

For further options, see Form PCT/ISA/220.

3. For further details, see notes to Form PCT/ISA/220.

| | |
|--|--------------------|
| Name and mailing address of the ISA/IP | Authorized officer |
| Facsimile No. | Telephone No. |

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

International application No.

PCT/JP2004/005707

Box No. 1

Basis of this opinion

1. With regard to the language, this opinion has been established on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.
☐ This opinion has been established on the basis of a translation from the original language into the following language _____, which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rule 12.3 and 23.1(b)).
2. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application and necessary to the claimed invention, this opinion has been established on the basis of:
 - a. type of material
☐ a sequence listing
☐ table(s) related to the sequence listing
 - b. format of material
☐ in written format
☐ in computer readable form
 - c. time of filing/furnishing
☐ contained in the international application as filed.
☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority for the purposes of search.
3. ☐ In addition, in the case that more than one version or copy of a sequence listing and/or table(s) relating thereto has been filed or furnished, the required statements that the information in the subsequent or additional copies is identical to that in the application as filed or does not go beyond the application as filed, as appropriate, were furnished.
4. Additional comments:

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

International application No.

PCT/JP2004/005707

Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability;
citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

| | | | |
|-------------------------------|--------|-----------------|-----|
| Novelty (N) | Claims | 4-7, 9-12 | YES |
| | Claims | 1-3, 8 | NO |
| Inventive step (IS) | Claims | 5, 6, 9 | YES |
| | Claims | 1-4, 7-8, 10-12 | NO |
| Industrial applicability (IA) | Claims | 1-12 | YES |
| | Claims | | NO |

2. Citations and explanations:

Document 1: JP 2002-280852 A (Sharp Corp.), 27 September 2002 & US 2002/0131533 A1
Document 2: JP 2000-209118 A (Sharp Corp.), 28 July 2000
Document 3: JP 2001-186083 A (Toshiba Corp.), 06 July 2001
Document 4: JP 2002-217763 A (Sony Corp.), 02 August 2002

Claims 1-3, 8

Because the subject matter of claims 1-3 and 8 is described in document 1 (paragraphs 0103-0130) cited in the ISR, it does not appear to be novel or to involve an inventive step.

Claim 4

The subject matter of claim 4 does not appear to involve an inventive step based on document 1 and document 2 cited in the ISR (paragraphs 0040-0045). Determining the size of the input signal by the average value taught in document 2 would be easy for a party skilled in the art.

Claim 7

The subject matter of claim 7 does not appear to involve an inventive step based on document 1 and document 3 (paragraphs 0011-0012) cited in the ISR.

Claims 10-12

The subject matter of claims 10-12 does not appear to involve an inventive step based on document 1 and document 4 (paragraphs 0025-0027) cited in the ISR.

Claims 5, 6, 9

None of the documents cited in the ISR describes the subject matter of claims 5, 6 and 9; nor would it be obvious to a party skilled in the art.